

## Essentials of School Law, by Harry Raymond Trusler

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properly trained nurses, employees and administrative officers. It has brought about specialization and the foundation of tuberculosis hospitals, cancer hospitals, isolation hospitals, lying-in hospitals, and many other forms of specialized accommodations. It has led cities, villages, counties, and other municipal corporations to found public hospitals of both general and special types. It has resulted in charitable donations of truly princely proportions. In consequence a situation such as the Bible describes of Lazarus lying in a very serious condition for days at the door of the rich man is now practically out of the question in this country.

That this extraordinary growth must raise new questions of law of course was inevitable. New statutes had to be drafted and new situations decided by the various supreme courts. In consequence there now exists a very large body of law in which hospitals are directly interested. These various statutes and decisions have not heretofore been available in any convenient form. They were scattered through the statute books of our forty-eight states and through the thousands of volumes of reports under whose weight the shelves of our larger law libraries now groan.

It is the purpose of this book to make all this material conveniently available. So far as statutes are concerned the authors have painstakingly gone through the statutes of all the states and present extracts of their provisions under such chapter headings as incorporation of hospitals, tax exemption of hospitals, public aid for hospitals, licensing of hospitals and laws regarding reports and records to be made or kept by hospitals. Principles of law laid down by the courts rather than enacted into "written" form by the various legislatures are covered by chapters dealing with the liability of a hospital for negligence, the definition of a hospital, taxation of a hospital, charitable gifts to hospitals and the question so copiously passed upon by the courts but surprising at first blush of a hospital as a nuisance.

In form the book resembles a digest more than a textbook. The authors, however, have not always been content to reflect the mere legal proposition contained in the various cases referred to but have frequently cited copiously from the opinion of the court thus putting the reader in close touch with such opinion without the necessity of actually consulting it. The book will be of every great value to hospital officials, to physicians who maintain a close relationship with some particular hospital, and to attorneys who represent one or more hospitals. Its external dress is such as the public has come to expect from the publisher. The binding is substantial, the paper of a good quality and the typographical part as near perfect as human imperfections will permit. An index, table of cases and analysis of the various chapters are aids which have not been overlooked.

CARL ZOLLMANN

**Essentials of School Law**, by Harry Raymond Trusler, Dean of the College of Law, University of Florida. 478 pages. Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Ever since the days of Horace Mann, of Massachusetts, the public school system of the United States has advanced with giant strides. Not only does it give instruction to many millions of pupils but it also furnishes employment to many hundreds of thousands of teachers. The aggregate value of its property in the form of school grounds and school houses is almost beyond computation. Large prosperous business ventures concerning themselves with the production of school supplies and school books have been built up on it and furnish employment to tens of thousands of workers.

This aggressive development renders it highly desirable that the legal principles invoked in the settlement of school disputes should be more critically inspected and more closely correlated. A knowledge of school law is particularly advantageous to a teacher. Firmness and tact are essential to his success. Personal knowledge of the law will render him more competent and resolute in enforcing contested rules and regulations. It will disclose to him some instances at least of illegal conduct to avoid. It certainly is detrimental to his reputation to be hauled before a court by some captious pupil justly deserving punishment though not the punishment of the teacher's choice and be mandamus'd to do something, enjoined from doing something, fined or imprisoned for doing something or forced to pay damages for technical assault and battery, false imprisonment, slander or libel.

The book by Dean Trusler fills a gap in both legal and school literature. It will be highly useful to lawyers as a means of *getting* teachers out of trouble and will be even more useful in enabling teacher to *keep* out of trouble. It is written in a style which not only will render it intelligible to any teacher and useful to any lawyer but will also make it highly instructive and interesting reading to any man or woman of intelligence. The author has not hesitated to let the courts themselves speak at length on various matters, neither does he hesitate to criticize them where he considers them to be wrong or to state in case of a conflict of authority which side in his opinion has the better of the argument. Something like 1,500 cases are referred to and an immense variety of questions arising out of school life are discussed. Thus under the chapter of the Teacher's Contract the author discusses minimum wages for teachers, bonuses, compensation for unqualified teachers, and dismissal of teacher for marriage or childbirth, incompetency, immorality, refusal to become vaccinated, tardiness, negligence, inattention, mismanagement, political activity, cruel treatment, profane and abusive language, etc. Other chapters cover a similar range of subjects of interest to a person who is at the head of a classroom.

A substantial binding, good paper and the excellent typographical work for which the publishers are noted enhance the value of the book. An index of twenty pages at the end of the volume as well as an analysis of the chapters at its beginning opens it up to such readers as cannot afford the time to read it in course. A table of cases of twenty-seven pages will prove of great value to the lawyer users of the volume and occasionally even to those readers who are not lawyers. The book certainly deserves a place in the library of every school principal. Its purchase by any teacher, who takes teaching seriously, will not be regretted.

CARL ZOLLMANN

### Cases on Business Law, by Leslie J. Ayer. Prentice-Hall, Inc.

This book is one that is not new in the field of business law books, and yet it stands alone. It is a book of many divisions of the law grouping them all under the subject of contracts. There is a very good introduction made up primarily of explaining various points of law, such as municipal law, unwritten law, common law and equity, pleading and procedure, and the contrast of crimes, torts, and contracts. Many points are illustrated by very select cases.

The major portion of the book treats with the subject of contracts. This treatise includes mutual assent, consideration, capacity to contract, illegality of contract, effects of fraud, duress, mistake and undue influence, forms of contracts, statute of frauds, performance of contracts, rights of third parties, remedies, interference with contractual relations. Each subject is illustrated with cases